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Commission on Narcotic Drugs
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Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

United States of America: draft resolution

Promotion of measures, including voluntary cooperation, to target new psychoactive substances and precursors

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Aware that illicit drugs and new psychoactive substances continue to pose a risk to public health and security, and that an effective response requires balanced and integrated action to reduce their harm and supply,

Concerned that efforts to reduce the public health harms and supply of illicit drugs are being undermined by the use of non-scheduled precursor chemicals as substitutes for internationally controlled precursor chemicals in the manufacture of illicit drugs,

Recognizing that drug traffickers are making available an increasing number of new psychoactive substances as alternatives to internationally controlled licit and illicit drugs for purposes of abuse,

Recalling related resolutions, such as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1996/29 of 24 July 1996 and 2001/14 of 24 July 2001, and Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 50/10 of 16 March 2007, 54/8 of 25 March 2011 and 56/13 of 15 March 2013, which emphasized the importance of measures to enhance cooperation between competent authorities and concerned industrial sectors and

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operators in order to promote greater awareness of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and to facilitate the identification of suspicious transactions and orders involving both internationally controlled and non-controlled precursor chemicals,

Recalling also its resolutions 55/1 of 16 March 2012, 56/4 of 15 March 2013, 57/9 of 21 March 2014 and 58/11 of 17 March 2015 on enhancing international cooperation on new psychoactive substances, in particular relating to exchanging information, sharing best practice in demand and supply reduction, and supporting the international drug scheduling system to meet the challenges posed by these substances,

Noting that the important role of the International Narcotics Control Board, the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the World Health Organization in supporting the development of an international response to the challenge of new psychoactive substances as indicated in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 57/9,

Welcoming the efforts by the World Health Organization to meet regularly for the evidence-based review of new psychoactive substances for potential control under the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[1] and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[2]

Welcoming also the decisions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, taken at its fifty-eighth session, to place nine new psychoactive substances under international control for the first time,

Welcoming further the role of the International Narcotics Control Board in conducting relevant assessments of precursor chemicals under article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[3] as necessary,

Welcoming the outcome document entitled "Proposed measures against the misuse of scheduled and non-scheduled precursors and new psychoactive substances" of the international conference on precursor chemicals and new psychoactive substances jointly convened by the International Narcotics Control Board and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Bangkok from 21 to 24 April 2015, which highlighted the need for cooperation to prevent internationally controlled and non-controlled precursors and new psychoactive substances from reaching illicit drug manufacturing laboratories and markets for illicit or harmful purposes,

Recognizing that industry cooperation is an effective measure to address the illicit supply of non-scheduled substances, including non-scheduled precursor chemicals, as well as new psychoactive substances and their precursors,

Welcoming the placing of selected precursors and new psychoactive substances under international control while recognizing that the international scheduling of priority substances must be accompanied by enhanced domestic and international

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.
[2] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[3] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

action to develop a balanced and integrated response, and by proactive mechanisms and approaches to prevent non-scheduled substances from reaching illicit drug manufacturing laboratories and markets for illicit or harmful purposes,

1. *Encourages* Member States to review domestic demand reduction programmes with a view to enhancing educational campaigns to enhance awareness about the dangers of new psychoactive substances;

2. *Invites* Member States to consider a variety of control, regulatory, legislative and administrative initiatives as part of a balanced and integrated domestic response to new psychoactive substances, including temporary, provisional or emergency control measures and regulatory procedures for controlled substance analogues;

3. *Invites* the World Health Organization, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, relevant regional organizations and Member States, to continue conducting regular and timely evidence-based reviews of the most harmful, prevalent and persistent new psychoactive substances, and to use the risk of public health harm as a primary factor in prioritizing substances for review;

4. *Also invites* the World Health Organization, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, relevant regional organizations and Member States, to disseminate its surveillance list of substances of concern, to proactively collect evidence on these substances that supports future evidence-based reviews, and to issue voluntary public health alerts where there is sufficient evidence that a new psychoactive substance poses a risk to public safety;

5. *Calls upon* all Governments to explore the full potential of cooperation between competent authorities and concerned industrial sectors of all sizes and at all levels with regard to preventing the supply of internationally controlled and non-scheduled precursor chemicals and new psychoactive substances to illicit drug manufacturing laboratories and/or other markets for illicit or harmful purposes;

6. *Invites* the International Narcotics Control Board, with relevant information and support, including from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, relevant regional organizations and Member States, to systematically collect all available information and to conduct assessments, as necessary, of non-controlled precursor chemicals used in the manufacture of illicit drugs and new psychoactive substances;

7. *Encourages* Governments to make use of the International Narcotics Control Board's *Guidelines for a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry* to develop and sign memorandums of understanding with all concerned industrial sectors and to fully incorporate the principles of such cooperation into the concept of corporate social responsibility;

8. *Invites* the International Narcotics Control Board, drawing on the expertise of the task force on new psychoactive substances known as Project Ion (international operations on new psychoactive substances), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and relevant regional organizations to disseminate the newly created limited international special surveillance lists for new psychoactive substances for which sufficient information exists on their availability and public health harms and to support Member States in restricting their supply;

9. *Encourages* all Member States to establish arrangements, whether voluntary, administrative or legislative, whereby their domestic operators involved in the trade of the substances included in the international special surveillance lists of non-controlled precursor chemicals and new psychoactive substances, or any similar list maintained by Member States, will report suspicious orders of these chemicals and substances and cooperate with national enforcement and control authorities with regard to those chemicals and substances;

10. *Invites* Member States, subject to their constitutional principles and the basic concepts of their legal systems, to take civil, criminal or administrative action against suppliers and traders of scheduled substances and, where possible, substances included in the special surveillance lists and analogues, for failure to cooperate with the authorities to prevent the illicit supply and diversion of any such substances;

11. *Also invites* Member States, if they are unable to stop shipments of substances included in the international surveillance lists to inform the authorities of transit and destination countries of known shipments, so that those authorities may take appropriate action on incoming shipments;

12. *Urges* Governments, in accordance with their national legislation, to make full use of existing tools, including those provided by the International Narcotics Control Board, in particular the Pre-Export Notification Online system, the Precursors Incident Communications System, Project Ion Incident Communications System, and the mechanisms and operations under Project Prism, Project Cohesion and Project Ion for the exchange of information and common investigations, in order to address the sourcing of and trafficking in non-scheduled substances;

13. *Urges* Member States, in consultation with the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime and other relevant international organizations, to provide support for the training of experts and officials in various aspects of regulatory controls, with particular emphasis on preventive measures such as chemical control and effective voluntary cooperation with relevant industries, bearing in mind that such training may often be best delivered on a regional basis;

14. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.